

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 were pending and stand rejected. Claims 1, 13, 16, and 24 have been amended to more clearly recite the invention and not to limit their scope in any way.

Claims 1-3, 7-12, 16-17, 20-25, and 28-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chandrasekaran. Applicants respectfully traverse. The Examiner and the undersigned attorney held telephone interviews on March 3, 2006, and March 7, 2006, during which they discussed claim 1.

The Examiner agreed that if the phrase "so that a message saved to persistent storage can be retrieved and delivered" were added to claim 1, then the amended claim would be patentable over Chandrasekaran. Applicants have amended claim 1 in this way. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over Chandrasekaran.

Applicants have also amended independent claims 13, 16, and 24 in a similar way. Thus, claims 13, 16, and 24 are also patentable over Chandrasekaran.

Claims 4-6, 13-15, 18-19, and 26-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chandrasekaran in view of Stein. Applicants respectfully traverse. These claims depend from their respective base claims, which are patentable over Chandrasekaran. In addition, these claims recite other features not included in their respective base claims. Thus, claims 4-6, 13-15, 18-19, and 26-27 are patentable over Chandrasekaran in view of Stein. Additionally, for the record, Applicants traverse the Examiner's assertions concerning the disclosure of Stein and the motivation to combine Chandrasekaran and Stein.

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are now allowable over the cited art of record and request that the Examiner allow this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned in order to advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,
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